

In Florida, illegal immigration is a serious and costly problem. Florida taxpayers pay approximately \$3.8 billion a year for education, medical treatment, and incarceration of illegal immigrants. Illegal immigration is also unfair to those who have respected the rule of law and entered our country legally.

For these reasons, I oppose amnesty and support a fully secure border, increasing the number of U.S. Border Patrol agents, and making English the official language of the United States. For example, the Comprehensive Immigration Reform for America's Security and Prosperity Act of 2009 (H.R. 4321) provides illegal immigrants with a “pathway” to citizenship. I will oppose this plan, or any comparable legislation.

Instead of rewarding illegal behavior, we need to secure the border. After I saw our border first-hand, I fully agreed that border security must be our highest priority. To help address this issue, I voted to help construct at least 700 miles of fencing along the US-Mexico border.

I support the Secure America through Verification and Enforcement (SAVE) Act, which establishes a strict immigration policy allocating resources towards border security, employer verification, and interior enforcement. Under this legislation 8,000 more border agents would have been hired to help shut down the border, unlawful employment would have ended by making the E-Verify program mandatory for employers, and immigration enforcement would have been enhanced by hiring more Criminal Alien Program (CAP) Officers to identify and remove criminal aliens.

Along with addressing the flow of illegal immigration, we must ensure that the United States of America is united behind a common language. Since the founding of our country, we have recognized English as our common language. For this reason, I support making English the official language of the United States. In fact, my record of this policy has earned me an “A in English” award from U.S. English, Inc.

Finally, to prevent illegal immigrants from taking advantage of taxpayer-financed benefits, I

supported legislation to close a loophole in Federal law that allowed states to issue driver's licenses to illegal immigrants. Driver's licenses are not just licenses to drive, they are used to open bank accounts, rent cars and apartments, purchase firearms, and commit voter fraud. Preventing illegal immigrants from receiving any form of government ID is a critical step in ensuring that they do not take advantage of benefits and services which should be reserved for law-abiding Americans who paid for these services. As your Congressman, I will continue to oppose any action which would provide illegal immigrants with the ability to receive public benefits.